

TAKE A STAND

TIME 15–30 minutes

SUPPLIES

- › Four signs labeled “Strongly Agree,” “Somewhat Agree,” “Somewhat Disagree,” and “Strongly Disagree.”
- › List of values statements

SET UP Place one sign in each corner of the room.

SAFETY NOTE Players may not debate or attack other players and should listen quietly while others are talking. Choose values statements that fit the needs of the group or reflect appropriate issues that need to be examined. Watch group reactions closely, and add additional statements if an issue needs to be explored in greater depth.

THE GAME Players start in the middle of the room. As you read each values statement, players must move without talking to the sign that best represents their opinion and expresses their stand on the issue. After everyone chooses a corner, ask players to discuss for a minute or two the issue with a partner. After 1–2 minutes, ask volunteers to share with everyone why they made their decision. Listen to at least one opinion from each corner. Repeat the process for each statement.

SAMPLE VALUES STATEMENTS

- › I believe the law restricting alcohol use to people 21 years and older is a good one.
- › I believe curfews are important for our safety.
- › I believe parents should be allowed to discipline their children any way they want.
- › I feel I am getting or have received a good education.
- › A top priority for me when I look for a job is whether it allows me to make a difference in the lives of others.
- › If I believe a law is wrong, I am within my rights to break it.
- › Making friends with people who are different from me has always been easy for me.
- › If I have to choose between doing the task at hand and the feelings of my peers, I will put my peers' feelings first.
- › Leadership is always easy for me—it's something I naturally do.
- › I believe voting is an important part of being a good citizen.
- › I believe my vote counts in shaping our future leadership.
- › When it comes to making a choice between standing up for what I believe and being accepted by a group, I'll put my beliefs first.

GOING DEEPER

- › Why is it important to take a stand on issues?
- › What are some factors you consider when making decisions about controversial issues you face in life?
- › Did you change your mind when you heard other people share why they chose a sign different from yours? Why?
- › How difficult was it not to debate or argue while you listened to others?
- › What can you gain from hearing others out? How can that help you learn tolerance?